

## Legislators work to honor Corps legend

### Basilone commemorative stamp fights red tape

BY CPL. CLINTON FIRSTBROOK  
Headquarters Marine Corps

**W**hile members of Congress and the Senate go through proposed resolutions each day, two legislators stand ready requesting a commemorative postage stamp be issued honoring Gunnery Sgt. John "Manila" Basilone.

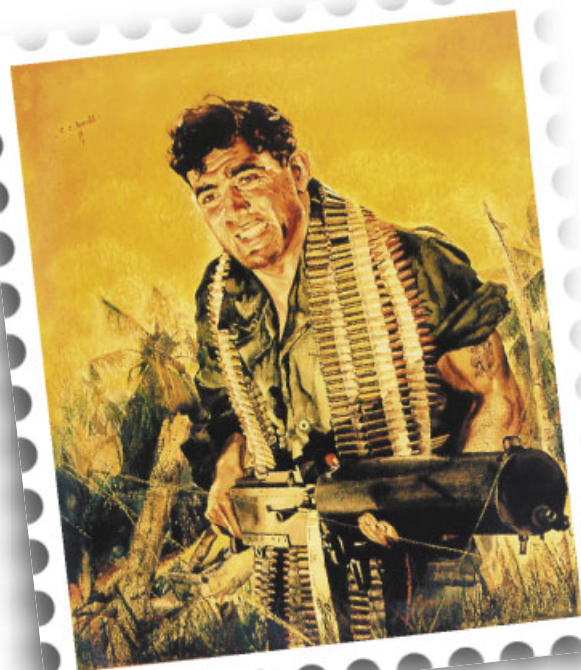
Since 2001, Representative Bill Pascrell (D-N.J.) and Senator Jon Corzine (D-N.J.) have taken it upon themselves to make sure history does not forget one of its Medal of Honor recipients by submitting resolutions to pass this act.

Pascrell, working closely with the National Italian-American Foundation and the Order of Sons of Italy of America, took up a cause to persuade the 13-member Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee to approve their request.

When they didn't receive a positive response, Pascrell and other delegates of the 107th Congress submitted Concurrent Resolution 4, for the United States Stamp Advisory Committee to recommend to the Postmaster General that this postage stamp be issued.

"After being elected to Congress, I learned that

SEE **Basilone**, pg. 5



If supporters in congress have their way, Marine legend Gunnery Sgt. 'Manila' John Basilone will be commemorated on a U.S. postage stamp, which might look something like this. Basilone was awarded the Medal of Honor for actions on Guadalcanal in 1942.

Original art by C.C. Beal

## ESTRADA VISITS DEPOT



Sgt. Maj. John L. Estrada, Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, salutes during the Morning Colors ceremony here March 5. Estrada paid an informal visit to the Depot on his return trip from Recruiting Station Sacramento. In addition to attending Morning Colors, Estrada attended Company M's graduation ceremony and participated in the retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Jeffrey H. Burnham, former Depot Equal Opportunity Advisor. Lance Cpl. Edward R. Guevara Jr./Chevron

## Marines team up to fight MS

### Father inspires Marine's crusade

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE  
MCRD San Diego

**S**everal Depot Marines will join thousands of San Diegans in the fight against multiple sclerosis this weekend during the San Diego County Credit Union MS Walk Sunday at the Embarcadero Marina Park.

The Marines are part of a team headed up by Sgt. Ethan E. Roche, combat correspondent, Public Affairs Office, whose father, Gary W. Roche Sr., was diagnosed with MS in 1990.

For Sgt. Roche, the walk has special meaning because he knows the potential devastating effects of MS.

"My dad was diagnosed 13 years ago, and while he struggles with fatigue and painful muscle spasms every day, he's in pretty good shape compared to many other MS sufferers," said Sgt. Roche. "However, one of the worst things about MS is that those who suffer from it can

take a turn for the worse any given day. I pray organizations like the National Multiple Sclerosis Society will help to ensure my dad never sees that day."

According to Sgt. Roche, when he decided to get involved with the MS Walk, he saw his fellow Marines as the perfect group of people to support his cause. He formed a 10-person team called Roche's Crusaders with the help of the MS Walk Web site. Each team member is gathering donations for the 10K walk, and the team goal is to raise at least \$2,000.

"I knew I could count on my fellow Marines to back me," said Sgt. Roche. "It doesn't matter the situation - Marines are always there for each other, and the MS Walk is no different. The majority of the Marines I've solicited from have donated, and many of them have forwarded my solicitation to their friends and contacts."

Sgt. Roche said he has received

SEE **MS**, pg. 2

### WHAT IS MS?

**Multiple sclerosis** is a chronic, unpredictable neurological disease that affects the central nervous system. The central nervous system consists of the brain, spinal cord and the optic nerves. Those nerve fibers are protected by a fatty tissue called myelin, which helps nerve fibers conduct electrical impulses. In MS, myelin is lost in multiple areas. This loss leaves scar tissue called sclerosis. When the myelin or the nerve fibers are damaged, the nerves' ability to conduct electrical impulses to and from the brain are disrupted, and the symptoms of MS appear.

Source: National MS Society Web site



### A HERO'S STORY

Learn the history of John Basilone and his courageous actions on Guadalcanal

5



### PAINTBALL WARS

PMO Marines are top cops in CG's Cup Paintball tourney

6



### DEPOT EDGES POINT LOMA

Men's varsity spreads floor, comes from behind to roll to third straight victory.

12





18-month-old ShaeLynn Standifird, daughter of Sgt. Stephen Standifird, combat correspondent, 12th Marine Corps Recruiting District helps herself to some chili at 12th District's Chili Cook-Off. The district raised \$128.39 for this year's Marine Corps Birthday Ball. Lance Cpl. Jess Levens/Chevron

# District raises money with chili cook-off

BY LANCE CPT. JESS LEVENS  
*Chevron staff*

Lively aromas filled the halls of 12th Marine Corps Recruiting District here March 5 as five contestants pitted their cooking skills against each other for the district's annual Chili Cook-Off.

Marines and civilians from the Depot and the district floated in and out of the contest to taste the different kinds of chili and to donate to the district's fund-raising efforts.

Capt. David Esola, district marketing manager, made more of a Mexican salad than chili, but he was still allowed to enter the contest. Cpl. Chris Fitzgerald, a district combat photographer, made a thick, hearty chili that tasted like spicy dog food.

Fitzgerald said it took about an hour and a half to make his chili, in which domestic beer was a key ingredient.

Gunnery Sgt. Matthew Sewell, district public affairs chief, disagreed with Fitzgerald, however. He used merlot

wine to give his chili a kick. It didn't win.

As lunch time dwindled, so did the chili supply. People filed in, sampled some chili and went on their way.

One Marine in particular, Capt. Neil Ruggiero, district public affairs officer, took full advantage of the cook-off.

"Capt. Ruggiero ate a lot of chili," said Sewell. "He had about five or six bowls – not just samples – but full, heaping bowls."

After the chili was gone, a general consensus determined the winner. Fitzgerald's chili won first place, and Sewell's came in a close second.

"It feels great to win," said Fitzgerald. "Everyone's chili was good, but obviously mine was the best. Gunny Sewell threatened not to give me my day off. He was jealous because my chili was better than his."

The event was worthwhile with a good turnout, according to Esola. The district raised \$128.39 for its Marine Corps Birthday Ball this year.

"We must have done something right," said Esola. "There wasn't any chili left over. Hopefully, we can have an even bigger turnout next year."

## Recruiters make mission, take poolees climbing

STAFF SGT. J. J. RODRIGUEZ  
*Recruiting Station Twin Cities*

More than 80 future Marines from the Delayed Entry Program from three different substations, gathered at the REI Climbing facility in Bloomington, Minn., recently to test their climbing skills and their mettle against the 60-foot indoor climbing wall.

"It's very important that these young men and women come here and overcome some of their lack of self confidence issues, said Staff Sgt. Frank Rivera, canvassing recruiter, Recruiting Substation Crystal. "By putting them on the rock, they can see for themselves that things can be overcome and challenges can be met."

Overcoming obstacles in the Twin Cities Recruiting Station is no different from any other station, but these days it seems the only obstacles left to overcome are left to the poolees.

The recruiters triumphed over their obstacles with RS Twin Cities' record of 39 consecutive months making mission.

Recruiters are able to indulge in events such as these because they have established good recruiting plans, which, in turn, enables them to take a little extra time emphasizing certain values to their poolees, according to Gunnery Sgt. Thomas Larson, assistant recruiter instructor.

"They can actually slow down and enjoy themselves without having to worry about making their mission later on in the month," he said. "The poolees can also see the level of relaxation on their recruits and be at ease themselves and focus on overcoming their fear of heights without undue stress," he said.

A recruiter's happiness reflects on his poolees, and a sense of belonging to this unique family drives the poolees to overcome their fears.

"It was a good thing to see the poolees putting a good effort into the wall," said Sgt. Kevin Lawson, canvassing recruiter, RSS Bloomington. "Some didn't seem physically inclined, but they made it. It made me feel good about the caliber of individuals that are going in our Corps today."

"I have lived in many places like Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Eritrea and the Horn of Africa, said Jack Ishkhanian Farrell, a poolee from RSS Bloomington. "I have seen a lot of things I really didn't want to see, but I saw Marines there too, and I idolized them."

According to Larson, the quality of life is directly related to each recruiter's ability to make mission. When mission is made, recruiters get a sense of accomplishment and pride, which is then transferred to not only each poolee but the recruiter's family as well. Happy poolees help the recruiters in the climb to make mission, creating a perpetual cycle of success.



Gary W. Roche Sr. kneels next to his pride and joy, his 1969 Ford Torino. Gary, who was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis in 1990, is the father of Sgt. Ethan E. Roche, combat correspondent, Public Affairs Office, and is the driving inspirational force behind 'Roche's Crusaders.' Sgt. Ethan E. Roche/Chevron

## Dad's love inspires Marine to lead team in fight against disease

MS, from pg. 1

support from all over the country, and people he doesn't even know have contributed to his cause. However, while he has exceeded his personal goal of raising \$200, his teammates have not reached the 200-dollar mark yet.

Roche's Crusaders will continue to raise money up until the last minute to try and reach the team goal of \$2,000.

"Right now I'm short of my 200-dollar goal, but I plan on raising money all the way up until the walk," said Lance Cpl. Edward R. Guevara Jr., one of Roche's Crusaders. "I'm going to go door to door Saturday, and I won't quit until I meet my goal at least. This is a great cause, and I want to do all I can to help."

While meeting the goal is important to Sgt. Roche, he said being able to raise awareness about MS in the process has been very rewarding.

"A lot of people don't realize how serious and widespread MS is," he said. "Since I started collecting donations, I received an e-mail from a Marine friend telling me about one of his leaders who was diagnosed with MS less than a month ago."

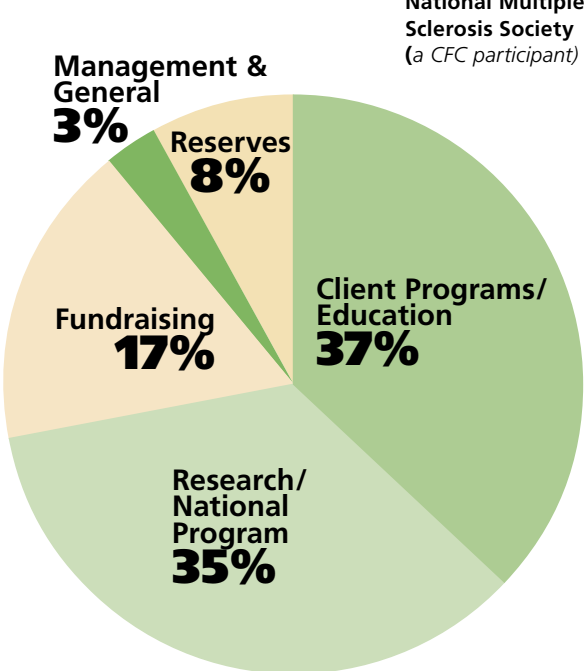
Approximately 400,000 Americans acknowledge having MS, according to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society Web site, and approximately 200 people a week are diagnosed with the disease. It usually strikes adults between the ages of 20 and 50. Those suffering from MS can experience loss of muscle coordination, slurred speech, tremors, stiffness, fatigue and severe vision problems.

Funds raised by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society help support research to find a cause and cure for MS and promote a full range of programs for MS sufferers.

"I'm glad I can be involved with this year's MS Walk," Sgt. Roche said. "It's an easy way to make an impact in the fight against MS, and I'm thankful for the opportunity to do this for my dad and everyone who suffers from MS."

For more information, visit [www.mswalk.com](http://www.mswalk.com).

### WHERE THE MONEY GOES



# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

## There's no room for it in my Corps

BY CPT. CRAIG A. SHERMAN  
*Jet Stream staff*

Every day before leaving my home, I make sure to kiss my wife and son good-bye. I love my family more than life itself and cannot understand why people abuse the ones they love.

More than 65 percent of domestic abuse 9-1-1 calls are from women being battered by their husbands and more than 35 percent of the calls are from men being abused by their wives, according to the Journal of American Medical Association and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Reading these findings, all I can ask myself is, "Why do people abuse?"

To answer my questions I looked on the internet and talked to some domestic abuse counselors.

"Abusers beat their spouse because they feel they can," said Regena Cooper, counseling services branch head for family advocacy, Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C. "A large number of abusers were either raised by an abusive family or were in an abusive relationship themselves. But that does not give them an excuse for their actions."

I believe in the golden rule to treat other people as you would like to be treated.

From the first day of my life, I have been told to never hit a woman. This philosophy will be passed down to all of my children.

Abuse is not right and should not be tolerated by anyone. Abuse will just hurt loved ones and it will teach children to be abusers.

*"Abuse is not right and should not be tolerated by anyone."*

– CPT. CRAIG A. SHERMAN

The common signs of physical abuse are bruises, cuts, broken bones, etc. However, emotional abuse is harder to notice.

According to the Nashville, Tenn. Police Web site, emotional abuse causes low self-esteem, and extreme shyness.

Abusers put down and humiliate their spouses in public.

This form of violence can be treated by anyone who witnesses the abuse by talking to the person and referring them to the proper authorities. There are several hotlines and agencies abuse victims can call or visit to get help.

For military families and Civilian Marines, the family advocacy centers can help. There are abuse hotlines such as the National Domestic Violence hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE, who you can call for assistance.

Domestic abuse can be stopped. Do not let it poison the family or destroy a child's life. As we focus on the war against global terrorism, let us not forget to battle the domestic terrorism that faces millions of men, women and children everyday.



Cpl. Craig A. Sherman

## SecNav: Taxpayers must be confident in our ethical decisions

RELEASED BY  
THE HONORABLE GORDON R. ENGLAND  
*Secretary of the Navy*

This is a short message about an important topic: ethics.

So let me get right to the point. It is essential that all Department of the Navy personnel adhere to the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct. The American people put their trust in us, and none of us can betray that trust. The standards of conduct are designed to ensure that we retain the trust of the American people.

It is critically important that we all put ethics above personal gain. Most ethical problems can be avoided by being forthright, honest and direct with everybody in every situation, every time. Everyone should understand that actions that may be permissible for some non-government employees are prohibited for us in order to preserve our trust with the American people.

Here are some examples:

A. Government resources. Use of "company" (government) resources such

as personnel, equipment, and property is restricted to official use only (with limited exceptions). We pay for our people, vehicles, and equipment with taxpayers' money, and so we must use them to only accomplish our mission, never for personal convenience or other unauthorized purposes.

B. Acceptance of gifts. Although there are some exceptions, we cannot accept gifts that are offered by individuals seeking to do business with DoD or because of the official positions we hold. Similarly, superiors must neither expect nor allow subordinates to give them gifts under circumstances not allowed.

C. Financial interests. We need to ensure that our financial interests do not conflict with conscientious performance of duties. This is important for everyone, but especially important for flag and general officers, personnel in the senior executive service, procurement officials, and other personnel who exercise fiduciary responsibilities. Waivers may be available in limited circumstances if it is determined that the financial interest will not affect the integrity with which

government duties will be performed.

The important point is that taxpayers must be confident that we make decisions for the benefit of the entire nation rather than just for ourselves, or a few companies or individuals.

D. Future employment. Anyone negotiating or seeking employment with a prospective employer must disqualify himself or herself from participating in official decisions, recommendations, and other actions that would affect the financial interests of the prospective employer. This restriction is especially important for procurement officials and other senior decision makers. Waivers may be available in limited circumstances if it is determined that the financial interest is too remote to affect the integrity with which government duties will be performed.

Adherence to high ethical standards means not only that we treat taxpayers and the Department of the Navy with respect, but also that we treat all people with dignity and respect. When treating people with dignity and respect, there is obviously no room for behavior such

as sexual harassment or sexual assault. Adherence to high standards of ethical conduct and personal behavior will ensure that we treat other with the dignity and respect that every person desires and deserves.

I expect all commanders and supervisors to set a personal example of integrity and ethical conduct. Doing so will create an environment that encourages subordinates to develop these same traits. In addition, reminding our people of their responsibilities in this regard is a useful exercise. One commander, for example, recently ordered a stand down to focus on personal behavior and ethics issues. Finally, commanders and other senior leaders must be particularly aware of ethical standards and should contact general counsel and judge advocate ethics counselors to seek advice or clarity on an ethics-related issue.

I appreciate the superb service each of you performs on a daily basis. You carry on a long tradition of service that preserves and protects freedom and liberty for all of our citizens.

BY CPT. SHAWN M. TOUSSAINT  
*Chevron staff*

The definition of support is to carry, according to the Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary Tenth Edition. Webster's also says support is 'to endure bravely or quietly.'

I carry a pencil and a note pad. So how can I say I support the Marines on the front lines fighting in the deserts of Iraq and Afghanistan?

As I have already stated, I don't carry weapons. I don't even carry food or water. How does my sitting here typing these words at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego help my comrades in arms in forward deployed areas?

These questions have danced around in my head from time to time and I'm sure those Marines in non-combat arms specialties have entertained similar thoughts.

To answer these questions, the first thing we must do is define the reason the Marine Corp exists. We all know we are America's 911 force and we must always be ready to protect and defend our great nation. But what is our job? If you ask a rifleman, he would probably tell you his job is to stack the skulls of our enemies.

Some of you are thinking "yeah that's his job." But I say it's our job too. We might not be pulling the trigger at the present moment. However, our efforts to feed, shelter, communicate, transport and even motivate the Marines who are pulling the trigger are vital in the Corps' ability to win battles.

For example, I could write a story about a young man who turned his life around in recruit training. That young man takes that newspaper to his hometown and shows his friends. His friends become interested in serving as a Marine and seeks out a recruiter. That story I wrote while I was back in the rear now becomes a force multiplier with a ripple effect felt throughout the Corps.

However, I'm not special. I believe all of us in supporting roles can find our purpose in the Corps' mission, which is winning battles. It is just a matter of finding your motivation and seizing it. So keep working hard. Let's not let those at the tip of the spear down. After all, we have all been trained since boot camp that we are all riflemen first. And when the roles are reversed, we too will be ready to do what our Corps and country demands of us all.



**COMMANDING GENERAL**  
BRIG. GEN. JOHN M. PAXTON JR.  
**SERGEANT MAJOR**  
SGT. MAJ. FRANK E. PULLEY

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR**  
MAJ. JOSEPH D. KLOPPPEL  
[kloppeljd@mcrdsd.usmc.mil](mailto:kloppeljd@mcrdsd.usmc.mil)

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHIEF**  
MASTER SGT. JANICE M. HAGAR  
[hagarjm@mcrdsd.usmc.mil](mailto:hagarjm@mcrdsd.usmc.mil)

**PRESS OFFICER**  
2ND LT. ANTHONY DELSIGNORE  
[delsignoream@mcrdsd.usmc.mil](mailto:delsignoream@mcrdsd.usmc.mil)

**PRESS CHIEF**  
STAFF SGT. SCOTT DUNN  
[dunnsw@mcrdsd.usmc.mil](mailto:dunnsw@mcrdsd.usmc.mil)

**EDITOR**  
SGT. ETHAN E. ROCKE  
[rockee@mcrdsd.usmc.mil](mailto:rockee@mcrdsd.usmc.mil)

**WEBMASTER**  
DAVID HOFFMAN  
[hoffmandm@mcrdsd.usmc.mil](mailto:hoffmandm@mcrdsd.usmc.mil)

**COMBAT CORRESPONDENTS**  
SGT. LEONARD E. LANGSTON  
CPT. SHAWN M. TOUSSAINT  
LANCE CPT. JESS LEVENS  
LANCE CPT. EDWARD R. GUEVARA JR.

**CHEVRON/PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**  
1600 HENDERSON AVE. #120  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92140  
(619) 524-8722

*The Chevron, printed with appropriated funds in compliance with Marine Corps Order P5600.31F, is published by Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego personnel. Opinions and views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Marine Corps or the Department of Defense. The Chevron is promulgated for informational purposes only and in no way should be considered directive in nature. All photos are official USMC property unless otherwise indicated.*



## BLOOD DRIVE



Cpl. Joshua S. Read, heavy equipment, Facilities Maintenance, sits back and donates blood during the quarterly blood drive in conjunction with the Depot safety stand-down held at the Depot theater, Tuesday. The blood drive collected 84 units of blood from Depot personnel. Sgt. L. F. Langston/Chevron

### Family-strengthening workshops

During the National Conflict Resolution Center's *Days Of Dialogue-Peace-maker Awards* March 25 through the 31, six free workshops will be available for parents, teens and families to learn the techniques of talking, listening and achieving agreements for mutually acceptable behavior.

For more information, contact Laura Walcher at (619) 238-2400 ext. 22.

### Liberty Run/Walk volunteers needed

The Liberty Run/Walk Freedom from Domestic Violence is a 4-mile/run/walk across the Coronado Bay Bridge to help raise awareness and funds for programs to prevent domestic violence in San Diego County.

The event takes place April 4. For volunteer information or entry forms, contact the volunteer coordinator at [infor@kinaneevents.com](mailto:infor@kinaneevents.com) or call (760) 434-7706 or go to [www.kinaneevents.com](http://www.kinaneevents.com) and click on Liberty Run/Walk.

### Financial Fitness Seminars

The Community Service Center is hosting a series of free monthly Brown Bag Lunch Seminars on Personal Financial Fitness topics ranging from the "Secrets of Financial Success" to "Things to Teach Your Kids About Money."

The seminars last from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Community Service Center Classroom, Building 26.

Anyone interested can call (619) 524-5728 to register.

The seminars are open to all who are interested, including family members, but will be limited to the first 40 people to call and register.

Light snacks and drinks will be provided free of charge, but attendees are welcome to bring their own lunch. For more information, contact Michael McIsaac at (619) 524-1204.

### Band looking for Marines

Marine Band San Diego is looking for Marines aboard the Depot to fill open musician billets in an on-the-job-training status with the goal of becoming a Marine musician.

Marines, private through sergeant, may audition for band assignments providing they receive permission from their sections.

An audition consists of performing a prepared selection, major and minor scales, and sight reading.

Typical experience of successful Marine musicians consists of four years in a high school band prior to enlisting, but it is not a requirement to audition.

Marine Band San Diego currently has vacancies for flute/piccolo, clarinet, saxophone, horn, trombone and guitar.

To set up an audition or receive more information, call Staff Sgt. Michael July at (619) 524-1754 or e-mail him at [julyma@mcrdsd.usmc.mil](mailto:julyma@mcrdsd.usmc.mil).

### Designated Driver volunteers needed

The Designated Drivers Association is looking for volunteers in an effort to cut down on DUI offenses.

Volunteers can meet new people, earn extra money in tips, and make a difference.

Drunken drivers kill almost 17,000 Americans and injure over 700,000 each year.

Volunteering for the Designated Drivers Association is a pro-active way

to get involved in the community.

Volunteers must be at least 18 and have a valid driver's license and insurance. For more information, visit [www.ddasd.org](http://www.ddasd.org) or call (866) 373-7233.

### Free tax assistance

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance office is up and running.

The office provides free tax service for active duty and retired service members and their dependents.

Located in the Headquarters Company classroom, Building 6W, the office operates Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 to 11 a.m., and 1 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday the office is open from 7:30 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 6:30 p.m.

Appointments are available, but walk-ins are accepted as well.

Anyone filing taxes through the office should call before coming in to find out what documents and information to bring with them. For more information, call (619) 524-8107 or 8109.

### Marine Corps Times "Marine of the Year"

*Marine Corps Times* is slated to award its "Marine of the Year" for 2003 in the July 5 issue of the publication. The Times will honor the Marine who best embodies the finest qualities of the men and women serving in today's Corps. Nominations must be submitted by April 7. To nominate, go to [www.marinecorpstimes.com/Marines](http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/Marines).

Submit possible briefs to the Chevron via e-mail to [rockeee@mcrdsd.usmc.mil](mailto:rockeee@mcrdsd.usmc.mil). The Chevron staff reserves the right to publish only those briefs that comply with Department of Defense regulations and the standards and regulations of the U.S. Government.

## UPCOMING SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM EVENTS

### Spring break trip

SMP will celebrate spring break in Lake Havasu, Ariz., March 19 through 21. The cost is \$50 per person for the weekend. For more information, contact Britney O'Connor at (619) 524-8240.

### Pacific Beach surf lessons

Get a 2-hour lesson April 3 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The cost is \$20 per person. That includes the cost of wetsuit and surfboard. The \$20 is due by close of business March 22.

### Price Is Right trip

SMP will take a trip to the Price is Right game show March 30. Anyone interested should contact Britney O'Connor at (619)524-8240 or e-mail her at [oconnorbe@usmc-mccs.org](mailto:oconnorbe@usmc-mccs.org) before COB Monday.

### Tutor program

Anyone interested in being a tutor March 29 should contact Britney O'Connor at (619)524-8240 or e-mail her at [oconnorbe@usmc-mccs.org](mailto:oconnorbe@usmc-mccs.org) before COB March 15.

### Basilone, from pg. 1

numerous Italian American Organizations and Marine Corps Leagues were interested in honoring Gunnery Sgt. Basilone with a commemorative stamp," said Congressman Pascrell. "I thought, who better to honor on a stamp than one of the most decorated battle heroes in World War II? As a former officer in the U.S. Army, I think it is important that we honor all those for have made great sacrifice to defend freedom."

As new sessions of government are seated, each bill that has not been processed expires. The latest legislatures on this issue are Resolution 218 in the House of Representatives and Resolution 56 in the Senate.

"Sergeant Basilone's heroism during the Second World War is legendary and he was profoundly patriotic," said Senator Corzine. "But after returning home, he quickly demanded a return to the front lines. His duty to country is what we have seen from our military men and women who stepped in front of harm's way in Iraq."

While these bills have endured the test of time, Basilone supporters from all over the country have been contacting their congressional representatives and senators to push this request forward.

"I heard about the bill last summer and immediately started contacting my local government offices and eventually branched out to the surrounding state offices," said Edward Mottola, Sons of Italy in America member. "This

man was dedicated to his country and proved it twice, which makes him well deserving of this honor. And after working 8 months on this, I'm not going to stop now."

Basilone supporters also have worked to distribute petitions throughout the country acquiring support for this bill. Jordan Jaffe and other members of the John Basilone stamp campaign have been active on this project since 2000, which has added to more than four million signatures and the support of many politicians.

"Everywhere I go I carry campaign petitions with me," said Jordan Jaffe, John Basilone Campaign project coordinator. But most of the signatures I get are from calling or sending letters out to people."

While the 2004 and 2005 stamp programs are completed, the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee is still convening on what stamps will be issued for 2006. Although no public announcement of individual stamps will be made until the entire stamp program for that year has been approved, the Gunnery Sgt. Basilone stamp is one of those considerations.

"He went above and beyond the call of duty and I can't wait until the day when I see the first John Basilone stamp pass through my post office," said Raritan, N.J. Postmaster George Lawrence. "I think passing this bill is important because as time goes by people forget about the individual sacrifices that were made."

"Any time we can pay tribute to one of our Marines,

# THE MAKINGS OF A HERO

BY CPL. CLINTON FIRSTBROOK  
*Headquarters Marine Corps*

For more than 60 years, Marines have heard about the legendary acts of Gunnery Sgt. John "Manila" Basilone. In the steaming jungles of Guadalcanal, two sections of heavy .30-caliber machine guns at the Tenaru River were in charge of defending a narrow pass to Henderson Airfield in the Solomon Islands. Suddenly, Japanese forces attacked their position. Vastly outnumbered, the Marines held their ground and fought valiantly to check the savage and determined assault.

Suddenly one of the gun crews was knocked out. Disregarding his own life, a Marine lifted his 90 pounds of weaponry and raced 200 yards to the silenced gun pit and started firing. Enemy soldiers attacked to his rear. He cut them down with his Colt .45 pistol. Short of shells, he dashed 200 yards amid a stream of bullets to an ammunition dump and returned with an armload of ammo for his gunners. This Marine battled his way through hostile lines running back and forth between gun pits clearing jams and resupplying the other Marines with ammo. Flares lit up more swarms of grenade-tossing attackers. The Marine's hands started blistering from the heat of his machine gun, but still he kept shooting.

At dawn, reinforcements found this Marine resting his head at the edge of his pit. The line had held. Nearly 100 sprawled enemy dead were around his cut-off outpost. At least 38 enemy dead were credited to this Marine, many killed at arms length. The day was Oct. 24, 1942 and his name was Gunnery Sgt. Basilone. For his actions he was awarded the Medal of Honor.

Upon returning to the United States, this Raritan, N.J. native traveled across the country on a war bond tour that prompted \$1.4 million in pledges. He met Hollywood starlets and his picture even made the cover of Life magazine.

The Marine Corps offered to make him an officer and let him spend the rest of the war in Washington, but he reportedly turned them down stating, "I'm a plain soldier, and I want to stay one."

After his war bond tour, Gunnery Sgt.



The Piazza Basilone in San Diego's Little Italy pays tribute to Gunnery Sgt. John Basilone and the neighborhood "boys that never came back" from all 20th century wars. The site was dedicated on November 4, 2003. Officials from the Little Italy board of directors said they felt after Sept. 11 it was time to demonstrate their appreciation of this city's relationship with the military and embarked upon a tribute to a great man: Gunnery Sgt. John Basilone. Staff Sgt. Scott Dunn/Chevron

Basilone requested to be reassigned to a gunner unit with the 27th Marines. He could have continued to sell war bonds or he could have even stayed back in the states. But this man instead chose to live his life as a Marine.

So he said farewell to his new wife, Lena Riggi, and joined the 5th Marine Division. Staying behind, he told his buddies, would be "like being a museum piece." And it wouldn't seem right, he said, "if the Marines made a landing on

especially someone like Gunnery Sgt. 'Manila John' Basilone, it's a tremendous honor," said Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, Sgt. Maj. John L. Estrada. "Being immortalized on a stamp is quite a tribute to Basilone and the entire Marine Corps.

As word spreads about both bills, the strength for the ongoing campaign grows each day. With the number of signatures acquired, this cause has become the largest stamp campaign in the history of the United States.

"Few individual's service stands above the efforts of John Basilone, therefore honoring his life is necessary," said Pascrell. "We are generating support for this legislation and as more members become familiar with the tale of 'Manila John,' our effort will gain more momentum."

Of John Basilone's family, three of his nine brothers and sisters are still alive today and are extremely proud of their brother and what he accomplished.

"I was so excited when I heard about the bill being introduced to Congress," said John's brother, Carlo. "I still hang my brother's picture over the mantle in my living room."

"I was 12 when the war started," said 74-year-old Donald, John's youngest sibling. "What he did for his country shows how much he was proud to be an American. He went back to the fight even though he didn't have to. He was a wonderful guy and a gung ho Marine."

the Manila waterfront and 'Manila John' wasn't among them."

On February 19, 1945, Basilone was again in action on the black sands of Iwo Jima on Red Beach II. Enemy gunfire pinned down his platoon. Everyone, that is, but Basilone, who walked straight up, kicking butts and yelling, "Get off the beach! Move out," he yelled at the gunners just behind, hunkered low and straining under the heavy loads of weapons and ammunition amid the blistering fire. Minutes later an enemy artillery round exploded, killing Gunnery Sgt. Basilone and four other members from his platoon. Immediately before, he had single-handedly destroyed a Japanese blockhouse, allowing his unit to capture an airfield. On his outstretched left arm was a tattoo that read "Death before Dishonor." He was 27 years old.

After World War II, his body was reburied with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery and he was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross. A life-size bronze statue depicting him in battle dress and cradling a machine gun now watches over his hometown of Raritan.

Gunnery Sgt. Basilone, the man whom Gen. Douglas MacArthur called "a one-man army," became the only man in the history of the United States awarded the Medal of Honor, the Navy Cross, and the Purple Heart.

John Basilone has been remembered in a variety of ways for his service and supreme sacrifice. In 1949, the *USS Basilone*, a destroyer, was commissioned. The New Jersey Turnpike Bridge across the Raritan River is named in his honor, as are numerous American Legion and Marine Corps League posts. Interstate 5 outside of Camp Pendleton has been renamed the John Basilone Memorial Highway. A tribute to the war hero started in 1981 with "Basilone Day" and continues to be celebrated annually in Raritan, N.J. on the last weekend in September.

However, John Basilone never cared much for the fame that accompanied his Medal of Honor. The parades, the newsreel appearances, the starlets who hung on his arm; he would much rather, he insisted, be just a "plain Marine" like his buddies who were still out in the Pacific. He told his brother after joining the Marines that, "Without his Corps, his life meant nothing."

### Iraqi Freedom Exhibit opening

The Command Museum will open its Iraqi Freedom Exhibit March 19 at 11 a.m.

All Depot personnel are invited to enjoy food, drinks and camaraderie from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at James L. Day Hall, Building. 26.

### Marine Security Guard Screening Team visit

The Marine Security Guard Screening Team will visit the Depot April 2. Starting at 9 a.m. inside Building 7w, the team will present a detailed brief on MSG duty.

At the conclusion of the brief, the team will provide screening opportunities for each volunteer from the rank of lance corporal through master gunnery sergeant.

All Marines awaiting orders to MSG school are required to attend this screening. Since this screening can be a timely process, all interested Marines should visit their command career retention specialist as soon as possible for further details.

### Individual Education Plan Seminar

Team of Advocates for Special Kids will host a free seminar here March 20 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Community Service Center Classroom, Building. 26.

TASK helps children with disabilities reach their maximum potential by providing them, their families and the professionals who serve them, with training, support, information, resources, and referrals, and by providing community awareness programs.

Find out about California education laws and learn strategies and techniques for a successful IEP meeting.

For more information and to register, contact Chris Bastian at (909) 609-3218 or Jan King at (619) 524-6078.

### San Diego MS Walk 2004

The San Diego County Credit Union Multiple Sclerosis Walk 2004 takes place Saturday and Sunday. The walk/run is an annual event, which raises money for the National MS Society. For more information or to register, log on to [www.mswalk.com](http://www.mswalk.com) or call (858) 974-8640.





# PAINTBALL WARS

## PMO bests competition in CG’s Cup tourney

BY CPL. SHAWN M. TOUSSAINT  
*Chevron staff*

At the sound of the horn, the heart starts to beat a little faster and sweat begins to drip from the brow. Movement is swift and silent. Positioning and teamwork must be flawless. The front sight post has centered itself upon the chest of the opposition. Now is the time — slow, steady, squeeze. Pop, pop, pop. Two rounds just above the head, and the third is dead center in the back.

The game is over for everyone except the members of the Provost Marshall’s Office paintball team.

For the second year in a row, the team has taken top honors at the Commanding General’s Cup paintball tournament.

According to Sgt. Christopher Isley, physical security specialist here, the paintball facility is no stranger to him or his teammates.

“We practice this stuff all the time,” said Isley. “It helps us get to know each other in the sense that we can anticipate each others reactions in the event of an urban warfare situation. Besides all of that, it’s a lot fun.”

The Coast Guard teams were also having fun eliminating competitors and laying claim to the second and third place trophies.

They set a new record, eliminating an opposing team in one minute and 32 seconds

without suffering any casualties.

After the record-setting feat, Chief Gunners Mate Todd A. LaFleur, gunner, Pacific Tactical Law Enforcement Team, explained his unit’s success.

“It’s our bread and butter,” said LaFleur. “This is what we do for a living. We take it seriously.”

Though most took the competition seriously, others were more interested in what was cooking on the grill.

While the competitors awaited their next match, Marine Corps Community Services provided lunch.

Sgt. Maj. Enrique X. Hines, Support Battalion sergeant major, made sure the food was distributed evenly before he ate his third sausage.

“This is a lot of fun,” said Hines. “I’ll go home and say I had a hard day at work,” he added with a chuckle.

The paintball tournament was added to the CG’s Cup in 2003, according Rachel Dickinson, intramural sports coordinator, MCCS.

“The paintball tournament has added to the overall camaraderie of the CG’s Cup,” said Dickinson. “The paintball tournament brings fun and practicality into the race for the CG’s Cup. This year, the race is a lot closer, and this tournament could be pivotal in the final outcome. It’s going to come down to who has the bigger heart.”



The Depot’s paintball facility features several obstacles including a two-story tower, abandoned vehicles and bales of hay. These features allow participants to simulate an urban combat environment. Cpl. Shawn M. Toussaint/Chevron



Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Todd A. LaFleur, small-arms specialist, Pacific Tactical Law Enforcement Team, darts from a concealed position to attack an enemy stronghold. Cpl. Shawn M. Toussaint/Chevron



Petty Officer Second Class Devin Dix, Pacific Tactical Law Enforcement Team, aims in at his opponents. Cpl. Shawn M. Toussaint/Chevron



Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Todd A. LaFleur, small arms specialist, Pacific Tactical Law Enforcement Team, points out the position of an opponent to one of his teammates. Cpl. Shawn M. Toussaint/Chevron



# LEADING LADY

*First sergeant sets high standards at training company*

BY LANCE CPL. JESS LEVENS  
*Chevron staff*

The campaign cover comes off as she sits at her desk and reveals a strawberry-blond sock bun and gentle, blue eyes. Her Florida Gator smile lets people know there is much more to this former college basketball player than the campaign cover and the icy, mysterious image of a drill instructor.

1st Sgt. Nicolyn Woodarek, Instructional Training Company first sergeant, is a 14-year veteran of the Corps, and she said her career has been both illustrious and rewarding. The Corps has helped the 36-year-old maintain herself and her passion in life: physical fitness.

Woodarek said her athleticism goes back to when she was in high school in Eau Claire, Wis. She played basketball and was selected to the all-conference, all-state and all-American teams. This earned her an athletic scholarship to the University of Florida in Gainesville.

"I was excited to play college basketball," said Woodarek. "I was allowed to take five paid visits to colleges around the country. I picked Florida for the academics and the atmosphere."

So after graduation, Woodarek left the tundra of Wisconsin and went to the Sunshine State, ready to learn and eager to hoop it up. She majored in finance and started as a shooting forward on the basketball team her junior and senior years. Woodarek graduated with a bachelor's degree in finance and was ready for the next step in her life.

"I developed an interest in the military," said Woodarek. "Everyone always hears about how tough the Marine Corps is, and I knew it would be a good way to start my career and keep me in good shape. It was also a way to prolong my basketball career."

Woodarek joined the Marine Corps in 1990 after graduating college. Stationed at Marine Corps Base Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, she served as a financial clerk and immediately joined the base basketball team. She was scouted at a regional tournament and selected to play for the All-Marine basketball team. She played in 1991 and 1992 but had to sit out in 1993. Something more important than basketball came along.

"I missed that season because I had my son, Luke," said Woodarek. "I rejoined the team in 1994 once I fully recovered and got back in shape."

Another opportunity came to Woodarek in 1995. Her hunger for a new challenge, and a little coaxing from one of her leaders, Capt. James McCoy, sent her packing for Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., to attend Drill Instructor School.

Upon completing the school, Woodarek joined Co. O as a new drill instructor. She was meritoriously promoted to staff sergeant, worked her way through the drill instructor billets and was selected to be a series gunnery sergeant for Co. O.

"(Woodarek) was hard," said Staff Sgt. Shannan Rosenthal, an Academic Instruction Platoon instructor who worked with Woodarek at Parris Island. "She trained hard and was intimidating to the recruits. Everyone knew they couldn't get anything past her."

She left the drill field in 1998 with Luke and returned to her regular occupation. While stationed at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., she coached the Weapons and Field Training Battalion men's basketball team.

Woodarek came here in 2003 as a gunnery sergeant, to serve as a drill instructor. She had to attend DI School here for a three-and-a-half-week refresher course called the Prior Drill Instructor Course. She was the only female in her class.

Female drill instructors are fairly new here, and recruits needed to get accustomed to females in their environment, according to Woodarek.

"We are different from men," said Woodarek. "We are all Marines, but we are ladies first. This means we have to carry ourselves in a professional, ladylike manner at all times. The recruits here haven't been exposed to that. I actually get called 'sir' a lot by recruits because they're used to men training them. I correct them firmly, but professionally, and I don't think they'll make the mistake again."



1st Sgt. Nicolyn Woodarek, first sergeant, Instructional Training Company, prides herself on her high personal standards. Her love for physical fitness and professionalism has driven her toward success in the Corps. Lance Cpl. Jess Levens/Chevron

Woodarek started as an AIP instructor before she was promoted to first sergeant. Once she was promoted, she was assigned as the ITC company first sergeant. She is Recruit Training Regiment's first female company first sergeant, according to Sgt. Maj. Melvin L. Shepard, sergeant major, RTR.

Leading Marines, especially drill instructors, is an important task, according to Woodarek.

"Drill instructors are the epitome of professionalism," said Woodarek. "I am in charge of 45 drill instructors, and they all know what is expected of them."

Having a female first sergeant at RTR has not changed the way ITC operates, and the level of respect has stayed high, according to Rosenthal. "1st Sgt. Woodarek is a good leader," said Rosenthal. "It's nice to work with another woman and someone I know from the past. She's done a great job so far. I think every-

one respects her the way I do."

Woodarek doesn't have to work the same demanding hours she worked in the trenches, and she's found time to get back to the things she loves.

"I have a lot more time to spend with Luke," said Woodarek. "I even coach his basketball team."

Living in San Diego has sparked another interest in Woodarek. When the beach is warm, she is there catching waves.

"A close friend of mine turned out to be an awesome surf instructor," said Woodarek. "I try to surf as often as possible if it's warm enough outside."

Woodarek's love for physical fitness doesn't stop at basketball and surfing however. She is also a marathon runner.

"I never break any records, but I like to run marathons just to complete them," said Woodarek. "It's mostly mental. It's a long distance, but there is so much to see on the run, that I don't even concentrate on the distance."

Running marathons, playing basketball and surfing lend to Woodarek's impressive physical fitness test scores. She has never scored lower than 295 out of 300.

Woodarek said she has many role models who have paved the way for her success in the Corps. All of them share two common traits: demanding the best and showing professionalism.

Whether she's riding waves in the ocean or making waves in the Corps, Woodarek is a model Marine, according to Shepard. She is a single mother, an athlete, a drill instructor and a first sergeant of Marines, leading from the front.

# Vick-torious

Defying odds, new Marine excels with infant daughter's inspiration

BY LANCE CPL. EDWARD R. GUEVARA JR.  
*Chevron staff*

Friends argued that he should have stayed home to care for his daughter instead of joining the military.

"I told them, that's why I am going in the military," said PFC James E. Vick Jr. "I am going to take care of my family along with my neighbors, their neighbors and everyone else."

The San Mateo, Calif., native who joined Platoon 1151, Company A, three months ago, used motivation to provide for his family to excel within his platoon.

Vick was meritoriously promoted to private first class for his performance in recruit training and for being a squad leader.

"He was put in the billet because he steps up to challenges every time, and his situational awareness is good," said Sgt. Vernon L. Jarvis, one of Vick's drill instructors.

While in the Delayed Entry Program for two months at Recruiting Station San Francisco, Vick served as the guide and helped change the station's physical training program from one day a week to every day.

"He is strong in PT and sets the example for the other recruits," Jarvis said. "They respect him for it. You can't put someone there that they won't respect."

All Vick's hard work is preparing him for success with the Marine Corps, according to Jarvis.

"He is a responsible recruit who will get the job done," he said. "I have no doubt he will graduate at the top of his class at the School of Infantry."

The family Vick started is his reason for striving to do so well.

"I live for my family now," Vick said. "Before my daughter, I didn't know my purpose. I had finally created something that was not (fouled) up like everything I did before."

Vick has tried exceeding the limitations of life that his parents formed.

"My parents passed away by the time I was 10 years old," he said. "My father was killed because of gang activities, and my mother was killed by AIDS."

Vick found himself heading down a wrong path.

"I did a lot of stupid things," he said. "I was only concerned with making money."

His attitude changed in the couple years he was out of high school.

"My brothers are in the penitentiary, and I wanted to stay away from there," he said. "I wanted to do something I could be proud of."

He gained an entirely new outlook on life when his daughter, 3-month-old Rikkilynn G. Vick, was born, according to Vick. She slowed him down in a good way.

"Coming here did it too," Vick said. "Every night in my rack, I would think about not being able to hold my daughter."

According to Jarvis, Vick shows natural leadership and a maturity level above other recruits.

His family supports him today as he graduates recruit training and leaves the Depot to spend his 10 days of leave with his daughter and his fiancée Michelle L. Gualberto.



PFC James E. Vick Jr.



Staff Sgt. Armando Figueroa, drill instructor, Platoon 1149, Company A, prepares his platoon for final drill competition. Platoons practice daily for the competition, and Figueroa's role is to make sure recruits are properly executing drill movements. Lance Cpl. Edward R. Guevara Jr./Chevron

# OVER HERE OVER THERE

Drill instructor perseveres with duty & fatherhood while wife heads back to Iraq

BY LANCE CPL. EDWARD R. GUEVARA JR.  
*Chevron staff*

Staff Sgt. Armando Figueroa kissed and hugged his wife goodbye again February.

This was the second time the Company A drill instructor's wife, Staff Sgt. Angelica M. Figueroa, has left for Iraq.

"(His situation) would have overwhelmed me," said Gunnery Sgt. Ronald L. Spence, 4th Marine Air Wing, Marine Forces Reserve, New Orleans. "He's a good father and appears to be a natural at it."

Spence was an instructor with Figueroa at the Personnel Administration School, Camp Johnson, N.C., when Figueroa's wife was deployed to Iraq the first time.

"She left in January 2003 and came back in the summer around the fourth of July," Spence said. "By that time, he was already in drill instructor school."

Figueroa carried the responsibility of caring for a newborn daughter and two sons during his wife's first absence. While serving on the drill field, he does not see his children as often as the average parent, but Figueroa takes advantage of any time off.

"It might not seem like a lot of time to other Marines, but as a drill instructor, it is plenty of time," Figueroa said. "Four hours is like a weekend."

With the limited free time available to drill instructors, he makes the most of what his company gives him, including time to say goodbye.

"They gave me a week of leave to be with my wife before she left," he said.

Although this is not the first time his wife has deployed away from the family, this time will be the longest time, and she is already feeling the effects.

"I miss his companionship. He is really my best friend, and he means more than anything to me," said the logistics and armory chief for Marine Aircraft Group 16 based at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif.

Because of her job specialty, she is scheduled to be in Iraq for 13 months, returning in April 2005.

"I almost passed out when she told me



Staff Sgt. Angelica M. Figueroa

that," he said.

His wife expects him to support her and send her letters during this prolonged time, which he said he tries not to think about much.

"She said they would give her humanitarian leave for two weeks," said Figueroa.

It has been 11 years since the couple tied the knot in Yuma, Ariz., and 12 years since they first met in Okinawa, Japan, during his assignment extension. "One thing I love about the Corps is being extended out there and meeting her," he said.

Figueroa's children will be with him today as he graduates Platoon 1149 before taking a seven-week break between cycles. He said he expects phone calls and e-mails from his wife.



# ALMIGHTY ALPHA



**COMPANY HONORMAN**  
Lance Cpl. J. M. Hartwick  
Snohomish, Wash.  
Recruited by  
Gunnery Sgt. S. Grassfield



**PLATOON 1145**  
PFC J. Gomez  
El Paso, Texas  
Recruited by  
Sgt. J. Durham



**PLATOON HONORMAN**  
PFC E. Salgado  
Adelanto, Calif.  
Recruited by  
Staff Sgt. C. Steele



**PLATOON HONORMAN**  
PFC A. M. Davis  
Chino, Calif.  
Recruited by  
Sgt. D. F. Carrera



**SERIES HONORMAN**  
PFC B. A. Casey  
Grove City, Ohio  
Recruited by  
Staff Sgt. B. L. McGrady



**PLATOON HONORMAN**  
PFC B. J. Alberts  
Ogden, Iowa  
Recruited by  
Sgt. C. D. Lake



**HIGH SHOOTER (238)**  
Pvt. C. E. Thorpe Jr.  
Barnhart, Mo.  
Marksanship instructor  
Staff Sgt. F. Brachetti



**HIGH PFT (300)**  
PFC M. J. Webley  
Wasilla, Alaska  
Recruited by  
Staff Sgt. M. H. Guest

**MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT & WESTERN RECRUITING REGION**  
Commanding General  
BRIG. GEN. J. M. PAXTON JR.  
Sergeant Major  
SGT. MAJ. F. E. PULLEY

**RECRUIT TRAINING REGIMENT**  
Commanding Officer  
COL. W. M. CALLIHAN  
Sergeant Major  
SGT. MAJ. M. L. SHEPARD  
Regimental Drill Master  
GUNNERY SGT. P. DOMINGUEZ JR.  
Parade Adjutant  
CAPT. B. D. AMERSON  
Narrator  
STAFF SGT. J. R. BIGGS JR.

**MARINE BAND SAN DIEGO**  
Band Officer  
WARRANT OFFICER E. M. HAYES  
Band Master  
GUNNERY SGT. B. C. PARADIS  
COLOR GUARD  
SGT. M. MHAFFEY  
SGT. R. AGUILAR  
PFC K. A. WARD  
PVT. T. A. REICH

**1ST RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION**  
Commanding Officer  
Lt. Col. B. S. Blankenship  
Chaplain  
Navy Lt. Cmdr. K. D. Counts  
Sergeant Major  
Sgt. Maj. J. V. Morgan  
Battalion Drill Master  
Gunnery Sgt. C. A. Walker

**COMPANY A**  
Commanding Officer  
Capt. S. J. Scott  
Company First Sergeant  
1st Sgt. C. A. Reina

**SERIES 1145**  
Series Commander  
1st Lt. J. E. Logan  
Series Gunnery Sergeant  
Staff Sgt. B. E. Tanner

**SERIES 1149**  
Series Commander  
Capt. S. P. Dynan  
Series Gunnery Sergeant  
Staff Sgt. R. G. Cantrell

**PLATOON 1145**  
Senior Drill Instructor  
Sgt. M. R. Thompkins



PFC Sean P. Kocourek, Platoon 1145, attacks the next obstacle during the Day Movement Course event of the Crucible for Company A. Sgt. Ryan Smith/Chevron

Pvt. D. Estrada Hinojoza  
PFC L. W. Foglesong  
Pvt. D. A. Gipson  
Pvt. A. J. Gnuse  
Pvt. V. R. Gonzalez  
Pvt. R. J. Gordon  
PFC E. M. Guthrie  
PFC C. D. Hardesty  
Pvt. T. L. Harris  
\*Lance Cpl. J. M. Hartwick  
Sgt. J. L. Hawkins  
Pvt. M. V. Howerton  
Pvt. R. L. Jaunet  
Pvt. A. C. Johnson  
Pvt. L. A. Jolley  
Pvt. D. P. Jones  
Pvt. J. R. Ketcham  
\*PFC J. A. Koch  
PFC N. C. Lacsina  
PFC D. R. Lauer  
Pvt. J. D. Linke  
Pvt. J. A. Maginn  
Pvt. J. Molina  
Pvt. D. M. Austin  
Pvt. C. M. Baggett  
\*PFC E. E. Barrera  
Pvt. R. S. Blackmore  
PFC N. P. Boan  
Pvt. J. E. Bolden  
PFC J. A. Borne  
Pvt. A. D. Buckley  
PFC M. B. Byrd  
Pvt. R. E. Cabrera  
PFC C. E. Canas  
Pvt. I. G. Cantu  
Pvt. Z. N. Capangpangan  
\*PFC J. L. Carter  
Pvt. P. L. Cougill  
PFC J. H. Crum  
Pvt. T. H. Davis  
Pvt. T. K. Davis  
\*PFC W. V. Du Four  
Pvt. L. M. Duclos  
PFC E. T. Dye  
PFC M. H. Dickerson  
PFC W. E. Eastis  
Pvt. J. R. Ellis  
PFC A. R. Embleton  
Pvt. D. Fields  
Pvt. G. Figueroa  
PFC J. F. Fischer  
Pvt. A. M. Garcia  
Pvt. B. C. Garges  
PFC A. T. Ghoniem  
Pvt. J. D. Gudde  
Pvt. G. Gutierrez  
Pvt. B. D. Hardwick  
Pvt. C. A. Johnston  
Pvt. R. L. Keller  
Pvt. D. A. Kimball  
Pvt. L. R. Kirk  
\*PFC M. J. Lambaria  
Pvt. J. S. Lord  
PFC D. V. Lynn  
Pvt. A. R. Medrano  
Pvt. N. P. Mercado  
Pvt. R. D. Miller  
\*PFC D. Mirelez  
PFC J. W. Monroe  
PFC D. R. Muczynski  
PFC J. D. Mulkey  
Pvt. M. S. Nelson  
PFC C. M. Paiz  
Pvt. J. L. Paz  
Pvt. S. D. Renard  
Pvt. L. A. Rivera  
Pvt. R. N. Robledo  
PFC E. Salgado  
Pvt. D. Saenz  
Pvt. D. I. Santana  
\*PFC L. D. Shook  
Pvt. S. S. Smith  
Pvt. J. C. Smith  
Pvt. K. E. Stillwagon  
PFC M. Tinajero  
Pvt. B. Torres Leon  
\*PFC M. J. Webley  
Pvt. J. T. Wilson-Ross  
Pvt. R. Yglesias

Pvt. I. E. Alvarado  
PFC J. M. Anderson  
Pvt. A. J. Andrade  
Pvt. W. A. Arquero  
Pvt. D. M. Austin  
Pvt. C. M. Baggett  
\*PFC E. E. Barrera  
Pvt. R. S. Blackmore  
PFC N. P. Boan  
Pvt. J. E. Bolden  
PFC J. A. Borne  
Pvt. A. D. Buckley  
PFC M. B. Byrd  
Pvt. R. E. Cabrera  
PFC C. E. Canas  
Pvt. I. G. Cantu  
Pvt. Z. N. Capangpangan  
\*PFC J. L. Carter  
Pvt. P. L. Cougill  
PFC J. H. Crum  
Pvt. T. H. Davis  
Pvt. T. K. Davis  
\*PFC W. V. Du Four  
Pvt. L. M. Duclos  
PFC E. T. Dye  
PFC M. H. Dickerson  
PFC W. E. Eastis  
Pvt. J. R. Ellis  
PFC A. R. Embleton  
Pvt. D. Fields  
Pvt. G. Figueroa  
PFC J. F. Fischer  
Pvt. A. M. Garcia  
Pvt. B. C. Garges  
PFC A. T. Ghoniem  
Pvt. J. D. Gudde  
Pvt. G. Gutierrez  
Pvt. B. D. Hardwick  
Pvt. C. A. Johnston  
Pvt. R. L. Keller  
Pvt. D. A. Kimball  
Pvt. L. R. Kirk  
\*PFC M. J. Lambaria  
Pvt. J. S. Lord  
PFC D. V. Lynn  
Pvt. A. R. Medrano  
Pvt. N. P. Mercado  
Pvt. R. D. Miller  
\*PFC D. Mirelez  
PFC J. W. Monroe  
PFC D. R. Muczynski  
PFC J. D. Mulkey  
Pvt. M. S. Nelson  
PFC C. M. Paiz  
Pvt. J. L. Paz  
Pvt. S. D. Renard  
Pvt. L. A. Rivera  
Pvt. R. N. Robledo  
PFC E. Salgado  
Pvt. D. Saenz  
Pvt. D. I. Santana  
\*PFC L. D. Shook  
Pvt. S. S. Smith  
Pvt. J. C. Smith  
Pvt. K. E. Stillwagon  
PFC M. Tinajero  
Pvt. B. Torres Leon  
\*PFC M. J. Webley  
Pvt. J. T. Wilson-Ross  
Pvt. R. Yglesias

**PLATOON 1146**  
Senior Drill Instructor  
Staff Sgt. C. E. Gutierrez  
Drill Instructors

Pvt. J. L. Allen  
Pvt. R. A. Briones Perez  
PFC R. E. Burnham  
Pvt. D. J. Buis  
Pvt. D. C. Carter  
Pvt. E. W. Cawthon  
Pvt. A. W. Chupp  
Pvt. J. L. Converse  
Pvt. M. A. Defeo  
PFC M. H. Dickerson  
PFC W. E. Eastis  
Pvt. J. R. Ellis  
PFC A. R. Embleton  
Pvt. D. Fields  
Pvt. G. Figueroa  
PFC J. F. Fischer  
Pvt. A. M. Garcia  
Pvt. B. C. Garges  
PFC A. T. Ghoniem  
Pvt. J. D. Gudde  
Pvt. G. Gutierrez  
Pvt. B. D. Hardwick  
Pvt. C. A. Johnston  
Pvt. R. L. Keller  
Pvt. D. A. Kimball  
Pvt. L. R. Kirk  
\*PFC M. J. Lambaria  
Pvt. J. S. Lord  
PFC D. V. Lynn  
Pvt. A. R. Medrano  
Pvt. N. P. Mercado  
Pvt. R. D. Miller  
\*PFC D. Mirelez  
PFC J. W. Monroe  
PFC D. R. Muczynski  
PFC J. D. Mulkey  
Pvt. M. S. Nelson  
PFC C. M. Paiz  
Pvt. J. L. Paz  
Pvt. S. D. Renard  
Pvt. L. A. Rivera  
Pvt. R. N. Robledo  
PFC E. Salgado  
Pvt. D. Saenz  
Pvt. D. I. Santana  
\*PFC L. D. Shook  
Pvt. S. S. Smith  
Pvt. J. C. Smith  
Pvt. K. E. Stillwagon  
PFC M. Tinajero  
Pvt. B. Torres Leon  
\*PFC M. J. Webley  
Pvt. J. T. Wilson-Ross  
Pvt. R. Yglesias

**PLATOON 1150**  
Senior Drill Instructor  
Staff Sgt. R. O. Brantley  
Drill Instructors  
Staff Sgt. C. Gomez  
Staff Sgt. M. F. Delacruz

Pvt. O. I. Alcas  
Pvt. J. L. Aldrich  
\*PFC M. R. Asselin  
Pvt. S. D. Ayuso  
Pvt. E. Barrios  
PFC B. M. Bishop  
Pvt. J. L. Paz  
Pvt. S. D. Renard  
PFC A. J. Circhirillo  
Pvt. O. Corona  
Pvt. A. Diazjaramillo  
Pvt. M. A. Escobar  
PFC A. F. Funderburk  
Pvt. W. F. Grasso  
Pvt. P. T. Hughes  
PFC T. M. Katakowski  
Pvt. D. R. Kirsch  
Pvt. R. Mariscal- Arciniega  
PFC J. A. Neuman  
Pvt. R. Ochoa  
PFC R. J. Partida  
Pvt. C. W. Paul  
PFC C. H. Perez  
Pvt. J. W. Pergande  
PFC E. J. Pertz  
Pvt. S. D. Petersen

*Drill Instructors*  
Staff Sgt. A. L. Rodriguez  
Staff Sgt. A. Figueroa  
Staff Sgt. L. B. Abanto

Pvt. A. D. Aittama  
Pvt. J. D. Aquino  
Pvt. C. J. Aston  
PFC D. H. Choe  
Pvt. A. C. Crites  
Pvt. J. E. Cron  
Pvt. J. E. Dartnell  
PFC A. M. Davis  
PFC C. S. Din  
\*PFC J. L. Emans  
Pvt. B. G. Garabedian  
Pvt. R. Garza  
PFC D. M. Gibson  
Pvt. A. J. Gill  
Pvt. S. A. Hayes  
Pvt. M. A. Hernandez-Guevara  
Pvt. A. E. Hines  
PFC R. J. Izquierdo  
PFC R. D. Johnson  
Pvt. R. D. Johnson  
PFC M. J. Kling-Defazio  
\*PFC J. B. Leers  
Pvt. J. I. Lemus  
Pvt. N. D. Love  
Pvt. J. R. May  
Pvt. R. L. Mayhan  
Pvt. J. L. McCutcheon  
Pvt. J. A. McGuire  
Pvt. M. J. Mercado-Neuhaus  
Pvt. R. D. Merkel  
Pvt. S. J. Mitchell  
Pvt. R. M. Morenogarica  
PFC D. F. Musante  
Pvt. J. R. Nida  
Pvt. B. J. Nierhoff  
Pvt. L. D. Nystrom  
Pvt. D. F. Omengabar  
Pvt. K. A. Rinkenberger  
PFC D. J. Roadway-Esser  
\*PFC J. J. Robinson  
Pvt. E. R. P. Romolor  
Pvt. G. L. Rosenbum  
Pvt. G. H. Rowland  
Pvt. D. L. Rudison  
PFC M. A. Sadowski  
\*PFC A. S. Sorensen  
Pvt. B. T. Souder  
Pvt. K. R. Sterner  
Pvt. N. A. Suppes  
Pvt. N. L. Tkachik  
Pvt. D. A. Van Briggie  
Pvt. N. J. Varvares  
Pvt. L. Vera  
Pvt. L. A. Wagner

**PLATOON 1151**  
Senior Drill Instructor  
Staff Sgt. A. B. Stokes  
Drill Instructors  
Staff Sgt. B. C. Hester  
Sgt. V. L. Jarvis  
Sgt. J. Moreno

\*PFC B. J. Alberts  
PFC V. O. Garcia  
Pvt. E. L. Grohs  
Pvt. C. T. Lumsden  
Pvt. L. E. Maidesil  
Pvt. D. L. Mayfield  
Pvt. M. S. McCann  
Pvt. B. D. McClanahan  
Pvt. M. M. McLaughlin  
PFC J. R. McNellie  
Pvt. W. P. Moore  
Pvt. D. Nguyen  
Pvt. J. T. Nguyen  
Pvt. L. E. Pan  
Pvt. E. D. Panganiban  
Pvt. R. W. Pedigo  
Pvt. E. B. Pemberton  
Pvt. J. A. Perez  
Pvt. H. Perez  
PFC D. Pol  
Pvt. R. L. Proctor  
Pvt. T. A. Reich  
PFC J. P. Reynaga  
Pvt. D. B. Rhyne  
PFC E. Rivas-Chevez  
Pvt. N. D. Rodriguez  
Pvt. B. L. Row  
Pvt. D. R. Sandvick  
PFC J. P. Schoenberger  
Pvt. J. R. Seal  
PFC J. D. Sharp  
Pvt. K. J. Shaw  
Pvt. A. W. Simons  
Pvt. J. D. Smith  
Pvt. C. J. Smith  
Pvt. C. R. Staggs  
PFC J. A. Stephenson  
Pvt. W. J. Strait  
PFC K. A. Schweiger  
PFC S. B. Teeple  
Pvt. J. D. Thayer  
PFC R. A. Thomas  
Pvt. G. B. Tillman  
Pvt. T. S. Trickey  
Pvt. F. U. Valle  
\*PFC J. E. Vick  
\*PFC D. R. Walczak  
PFC A. J. Wallander  
Pvt. K. A. Ward  
PFC S. J. Weibling  
PFC D. B. Whiteley  
PFC A. J. Wilkinson  
Pvt. R. Zarate

*\*Denotes meritorious promotion*

Pvt. O. I. Alcas  
Pvt. J. L. Aldrich  
\*PFC M. R. Asselin  
Pvt. S. D. Ayuso  
Pvt. E. Barrios  
PFC B. M. Bishop  
Pvt. J. L. Paz  
Pvt. S. D. Renard  
PFC A. J. Circhirillo  
Pvt. O. Corona  
Pvt. A. Diazjaramillo  
Pvt. M. A. Escobar  
PFC A. F. Funderburk  
Pvt. W. F. Grasso  
Pvt. P. T. Hughes  
PFC T. M. Katakowski  
Pvt. D. R. Kirsch  
Pvt. R. Mariscal- Arciniega  
PFC J. A. Neuman  
Pvt. R. Ochoa  
PFC R. J. Partida  
Pvt. C. W. Paul  
PFC C. H. Perez  
Pvt. J. W. Pergande  
PFC E. J. Pertz  
Pvt. S. D. Petersen



Pvt. Oscar Martinez, Platoon 1145, Company A, keeps low while trying to complete an obstacle during the Day Movement Course during the Crucible. Sgt. Ryan Smith/Chevron



Pvt. R. J. Ruiz, Platoon 1150, runs a preparatory three-miler before Company A's final physical fitness test. Lance Cpl. Edward R. Guevara Jr./Chevron

## COMPANY CURIOSITIES Here's how men from Alpha Company answered Chevron's random questions about their boot camp experiences:

**Q:** Did you meet your goal on the rifle range?

**A:** No, I qualified marksman; I choked.

**Q:** What is your job specialty going to be?

**A:** Tank/AAV operator – because you can't drive tanks in the civilian world.

**Q:** What was the worst day in boot camp?

**A:** Crucible day 2 – I got dragged through the mud three times right before sunset, and it was freezing cold.

**Q:** What will you do first when you get home?

**A:** Propose to my girlfriend.

**Q:** What was the hardest civilian habit to break?

**A:** Slouching.



**Col. Michael A. Einsidler**  
PARADE REVIEWING OFFICER

Col. Michael A. Einsidler was born Feb. 1, 1947 in Oakland, Calif. He graduated from Lowell High School in Lowell, Mass., in 1965 and later enlisted in the Marine Corps.

After serving four years as an enlisted Marine, Einsidler was discharged from the Marine Corps in 1971. He earned a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Southern Maine in 1973 and also earned a master of public administration degree from National University in 1981.

He was commissioned a second lieutenant in November 1973. He served as an infantry platoon commander, rifle company executive officer, and battalion legal officer from August 1974 to August 1976 with 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division. In 1976 and 1977, he served as staff secretary with 3rd Force Service Support Group, Okinawa, Japan.

From October 1977 to January 1981, he served as an assistant series commander, series commander, company executive officer and the director of Sea School and Noncommissioned Officer's School, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. In July 1981, he graduated from the Army's Infantry Officers' Advance Course, Fort Benning, Ga.

From there, he was assigned to 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, Calif., where he served as assistant operations and training officer, 5th Marine Regiment and commanding officer, Company E, 2nd Bn., 5th Marines.

Einsidler was transferred in August 1983 to Landing Force Training Command, Pacific, Coronado, Calif., where he served as assistant chief of staff for manpower.

Einsidler graduated from the Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Va., in June 1986. Ordered to the Staff of Commander Naval Forces Japan, he served as a plans and operations officer for the assistant chief of staff Navy operations and training until July 1989.

Sept. 1, 1990, Einsidler assumed command of Headquarters Company, Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division. He relinquished command March 26, 1991 to assume duties as executive officer, 1st Bn., 1st Marine Regiment. The battalion deployed to Southwest Asia in January 1990 and participated in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, to include various engagements in the El Burquan Oil Fields and the assault on Kuwait International Airport.

Upon returning from Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Einsidler was reassigned to 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, where he served as the operations officer until October 1992. Assigned to I Marine Expeditionary Force, he assumed duties as amphibious operations officer.

Transferred to MCRD San Diego in May 1992, he served as deputy assistant chief of staff G-3 until July 1992. He then assumed command of 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, where he served until June 1994.

Transferred to III Marine Expeditionary Force, Okinawa, Japan, in June 1994, he served as amphibious operations officer, until June 1995 at which time he was ordered to the Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Ala. He graduated from the Air War College in 1996.

In June 1996, Einsidler assumed duties as director, Naval Expeditionary Warfare Training, Expeditionary Warfare Training Group, Pacific. He was assigned to the Staff Commander Third Fleet May 5, 1999, where he served as fleet Marine officer. He assumed command of Headquarters and Support Battalion, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 7, 2000. Einsidler relinquished that command June 6, 2002, and assumed duties as deputy director, Combined Joint Task Force 180 in Bagram, Afghanistan until July 15, 2002, at which time he reported to Pakistan as liaison officer, CJTF-180.

Einsidler departed Pakistan Nov. 23, 2003 and was assigned to the Formal Physical Evaluation Board, Balboa Naval Hospital, San Diego as the senior Marine officer.

Einsidler's personal decorations and medals include two Legion of Merit Medals, two Bronze Star Medals – one with Combat "V," three Meritorious Service Medals, two Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with Combat "V," the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal and the Combat Action Ribbon

Einsidler is married to the former Carol A. Bremner from Ames, Iowa, and they have a daughter, Gretchen.





Depot point guard PFC Chris Williams shoots a lay up after being fouled. The shot went in, but was called off because the foul took place before the shot.

# POINT TAKEN

## TEAMWORK IS KEY DOWN STRETCH IN DEPOT’S COME FROM BEHIND VICTORY

STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
LANCE CPL. JESS LEVENS  
*Chevron staff*

The Depot men’s varsity basketball team hung on to beat Naval Base Point Loma, Calif., 81-77 at the Depot Field House Tuesday night.

The early first half was a constant back-and-forth scoring frenzy. Both teams kept it close until the Depot D stepped up, allowing them to score several unanswered points.

Great ball distribution from Depot point guard PFC Chris Williams lead to breakaway dunks from forward Cpl. Quinn Barfield and some crafty play in traffic from guard Seaman Keilin Hopkins-Bey.

“Williams really played great,” said Barfield. “He stepped up and lead the team.”

The Depot held a 28-20 lead when things went awry for them. Point Loma went on a 10-0 run. Their aggressive rebounding gave them more opportunities to score, according to Depot coach Staff Sgt. Charles Joseph.

“I kept yelling ‘Block out!’” said Joseph. “If we can’t get a rebound, we can’t get the ball. If we can’t do that, we can’t score.”

The Depot players snapped out of their lackadaisical haze and took their coach’s advice. As soon as they came down with some rebounds, they started to chip away at Point Loma’s lead.

After coming back, the score was tied at 39 with less then three seconds to play in the first half.

Point Loma hurled a long pass in bounds in an attempt to gain a slight edge. Williams intercepted the pass, and fired it to a wide-open Barfield. With time about to expire, Barfield stopped his dunk in mid-air and dropped a smooth finger roll into the basket. The buzzer sounded as the ball left his hand and the Depot went

into halftime with a 41-39 lead. Point Loma came out fired up after the intermission and ignited a huge run. The Depot had several players in foul trouble, including Barfield, who had four fouls. After a timeout, the Depot woke up. Their defense came to life and the offense hit a hot streak. Point Loma’s double-digit lead slowly vanished as Williams hit several key three-pointers. But time was not on the Depot’s side.

With the game clock at less than five minutes, Barfield reentered and immediately rejected a Point Loma lay up and picked up the loose ball. He sprinted down court on a fast break, and with no expressed written consent, he rudely slammed two points into Point Loma’s hoop. He came down with a scream and threw a few jabs at the wall behind the backboard, a la Ken Norton. This brought the Depot within one point.

After some tight defense, Williams brought the ball across half-court, and launched a jumper from downtown to put the Depot up two. The Depot defense stayed strong and sunk several key free throws and held on to win their third game in a row.

Barfield lead the Depot in scoring with 25 points. Hopkins-Bey had 23 points and Williams added 22.

“I can’t remember the last time we had three players score over 20,” said Barfield. “Williams really impressed me. I haven’t seen him play like that in a long time.”

The Depot’s clutch defense added to the winning effort, according to Williams.

“We had that hustle on D tonight,” said Williams. “We played good in transition and took good shots.”

The fans were loud the whole game, and their support helped lend to the victory also, according to Joseph.

“Our teamwork came together tonight,” said Joseph. “But this team thrives on fan support. I challenge everyone to come out, see some great basketball and help us win.”



Depot forwards Cpl. Quinn Barfield and Lance Cpl. Rob Hill discuss the game plan and catch their breath during a first-half timeout.



Depot forward Cpl. Quinn Barfield takes it to the hole. Barfield was called for charging on the drive.